

217-219 West Bolton Street
Savannah Victorian Historic District
Savannah
Chatham County
Georgia

GA-1169-C

HABS,
GA,
26-SAV,
53C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SAVANNAH VICTORIAN HISTORIC DISTRICT

217-219 WEST BOLTON STREET

HABS No. GA-1169C

Location: 217-219 West Bolton Street, on the south side of Bolton Street between Barnard and Jefferson Streets, Savannah, Chatham County, Georgia.

Present Owner: Max E. McAtee, 220 West Bolton Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401.

Present Use: Residence; under restoration (1979).

Significance: The high stoop and steep gable roof are reminiscent of Savannah houses of the 1840s.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1870. The property was acquired from the Mayor and Aldermen of Savannah in 1869.
2. Architect: Not known.
3. Original owner: L. Wilson Landershire, a bookkeeper with Hunter and Gammell, merchants, factors and agents for the New York and Philadelphia steamship lines. The property is located in lot 45, Lloyd Ward.
4. Alterations and additions: The stairs from the ground floor to the second floor have been removed. Some new closets and baths have been installed.

For background information, see Savannah Victorian Historic District, HABS No. GA-1169.

B. Bibliography:

Deed Book 4 F 42 Superior Court Record Room, Chatham County Court House, Savannah, Georgia.

Insurance Maps of Savannah, 1888 and 1898. New York: Sanborn Map Company, at the Georgia Historical Society.

Lloyd Ward Research Book located at Georgia Historical Society.

City Directory, 1870. Georgia Historical Society.

Prepared by: Beth Lattimore Reiter
Project Historian
Historic American Buildings
Survey
August 1979

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This simple frame house is set on a high brick basement.
2. Condition of fabric: Under restoration.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The house is two stories with a fully exposed basement, and measures 26'-3" across its three-bay front by 45'-9" deep.
2. Foundations: Brick, full-story ground floor.
3. Wall construction: Brick on the ground floor; clapboard siding on the second and third levels.
4. Structural system: Wood frame construction on the second and third stories above load-bearing brick walls on the ground floor.
5. Porches, steps: The front stoop, approached from the east by a straight flight of metal steps, has plain, square columns with simple molded caps supporting the wooden canopy. Between the columns are turned balusters. On the rear there was originally an open three-tiered porch, which is now partially enclosed.
6. Chimneys: There are two chimneys in the east wall. The one on the northern slope of the roof is stuccoed brick with a corbeled cap.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways, doors: Two entry doors with glass panels on the top half and three panels below are topped by a two-light transom.
 - b. Windows: The windows are six-over-six-light double-hung sash. Shutters flank window openings on the second and third floors.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: The main block is covered by a gable roof; the rear porches have a shed roof. All surfaces were originally covered with wooden shingles, then with standing seam tin sheathing. During the current renovation both coverings will be removed and replaced with asphalt shingles.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: A deep box cornice supported by brackets trims the eaves.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: Each floor has a side hall plan, two rooms deep with an open porch in the rear, flanked by two small rooms.
2. Stairways: A straight-run stairway with simple balusters and newel extends between the first and second stories.
3. Flooring: The ground floor has a concrete slab in the hall and rear rooms, and wooden board flooring elsewhere. Hardwood floors throughout the first and second story.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Sheetrock wall surfaces over lath with simple three-part baseboards.
5. Openings: Sliding double doors are between the parlors. All other interior doors are raised four-panel doors.
6. Decorative features: All principal rooms have plain wooden fire-place mantels. Picture moldings trim the wall surfaces of all the rooms.
7. Mechanical systems:
 - a. Heating: The house was originally heated by wood-burning fireplaces. A central gas heating system is now being installed.
 - b. Plumbing: No evidence of original plumbing system. New baths are being installed.
 - c. Lighting: There is evidence of gas piping in the halls and of gas hall lights. Lighting now is by means of electricity.

D. Site:

The house faces north and is built on the lot line.

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PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the City of Savannah, the Historic Preservation Section of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the Savannah Landmark Rehabilitation Project, Inc., and Historic Savannah Foundation. The recording project was completed during the summer of 1979 under the general direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect; Eric Delony, Project Coordinator, Savannah Landmark Rehabilitation Project, Inc.; Beth Lattimore Reiter, Project Historian, Savannah Landmark Rehabilitation Project, Inc.; and Susan Dornbusch, Project Supervisor, University of Virginia; with student architects Gregori Anderson (Howard University), David Fixler (Columbia University), Stephen Lauf (Temple University), and Tamara Peacock (University of Florida), at the HABS Office in Savannah, Georgia. The drawings were edited in the Washington office in September 1979 by architects Susan Dornbusch and Gregori Anderson. The historical and architectural data was reviewed and edited during October-November 1979 by staff historian Jan Cigliano. Photographs were taken in September 1979 by Walter Smalling, a staff photographer with the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service. The documentation on the historic district will be used in the rehabilitation of the residences and in developing design guidelines for the area.